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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/697,570 Confirmation No. 8422
Applicant(s) : Nicholas Gerald GREY
Filed : October 31, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1746
Examiner : Frankie L. Stinson
Title : SURFACE CLEANING APPARATUS
Docket No. : ERPC.117628

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-145

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.102(d)
ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL INFRINGEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicant requests that application 10/697,570 be examined on an expedited basis by way of grant of this Petition. This Petition is accompanied by an Information Disclosure Statement and the Petition fee under 37 § CFR 1.17(h).

This request is based on actual infringement. Further to that regard, the undersigned states as follows:

1. It is believed that there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use. The device was previously purchased on behalf of the undersigned. Copies of pictures of the actually infringing device are attached to this Petition.

2. A rigid comparison of the device believed to be infringing the claims of this application has been made against the claims, and in the opinion of the undersigned, at least some of the claims of this application are unquestionably infringed. Note that in two of the pictures of the infringing device, arrows have been included to more clearly indicate the presence in the infringing device of the cleaning strip element recited in the claims of this application.

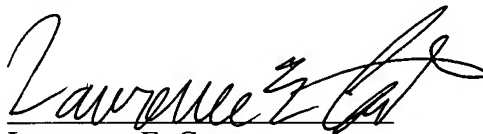
3. A careful and thorough search of the prior art has been made to the following extent: Application No. 10/697,570 claims priority to British patent application GB0225618.8. International Patent Application PCT/GB2003/04722 also claims priority to GB0225618.8. The various elements set forth in the claims of this application have been searched by the European Patent Office during searches conducted for this corresponding PCT application. The references found by the European Patent Office, as well as additional references found and provided by the Applicant, are included in an Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this petition, or were previously provided in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on July 1, 2004; July 9, 2004; and December 3, 2004.

Grant of this Petition is earnestly solicited. Should any need arise the undersigned can be contacted by telephone at 202-639-5645.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully yours,



Lawrence E. Carter
Reg. No. 51,532

Date: February 4, 2005

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